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NEWSPAPER ARTICLE "NAVY IS COMMITTED TO ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION" NSB  
KINGS BAY GA  
7/14/1995  
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e monotony of lengthy  
ation. Some may want simply to  
he prison walls — if only for a  
ourt.

s, no doubt, want to tweak the  
r put them on the defensive. A  
ing adversarial, may seek only

to cause the state extra expenses.

Whatever their motives, they are  
wasting public money. That \$2 million  
spent by Florida every year could be put  
to better use — like hiring more police

officers to catch  
criminals, expanding  
state's attorney staffs to  
prosecute them and  
building additional  
prisons to keep them  
locked away longer.

It is free  
entertainment for the  
inmates. Most get filing  
fees waived by  
claiming poverty, and  
they represent  
themselves or get free

counsel.

Legislation pending in Congress would  
require inmates to exhaust  
administrative remedies before filing a  
civil action and allow those who file  
such suits to be assessed a fee.

That makes sense. Although most  
inmates have little or no income, neither  
do they have a lot of expenses since the  
state provides all of their needs. They  
are as able to pay their costs as many  
people outside the prison walls — many  
of whom cannot afford high-top athletic  
shoes, satellite dishes.

If an inmate wants amusement or an



JAMES R. HARRIS THE FLORIDA TIMES-UNION  
KING FEATURES Syndicate

## LETTERS FROM READERS

### NAVAL BASES

## Navy is committed to environmental restoration

In response to the front-page  
article on July 10 regarding the  
reduction of environmental cleanup  
funds at local Navy bases, I would  
like to tell the rest of the story with  
regard to the Navy's total and  
unwavering commitment to  
environmental restoration.

The article, which emphasized  
recent cuts to defense environmental  
restoration account funds, failed to  
focus on one extremely vital fact: In  
spite of these congressionally  
mandated cuts, the U.S. Navy still has  
the requisite capacity and  
wherewithal to continue our excellent  
environmental stewardship programs.  
Over the past several years,  
responsible Navy officials at area  
bases have proactively stepped out to  
meet the challenge of protecting,  
preserving and, in some cases,  
enhancing our environment, while  
fully accomplishing their installations'  
military missions.

Despite limited budgets, our people  
have worked as full partners with  
their regulatory counterparts in  
federal, state and local govern.



to ensure a safe environment.

This approach was validated  
recently when a \$200,000 partnering  
investment generated a taxpayer  
savings of \$2 million. By cutting red  
tape and relying on new technologies,  
the Navy can take a more logical and  
responsible approach to funding cuts.  
By the end of this year, we hope to  
have 14 active environmental  
partnering teams in the Southeast  
United States.

One of the two Site  
Characterization Analysis

Penetrometer System units in  
Navy is now being managed  
Jacksonville Naval Air Station  
device uses the latest laser  
to quickly and cost-effectively  
soil contaminated with petroleum  
products. It has already been used  
successfully at Cecil Field Naval Air  
Station and will be employed  
wherever needed throughout the  
region.

While these measures are not a  
cure-all for the environmental  
challenges that face all of us, they are  
certainly giant steps in the right  
direction. I am proud of our successes  
in environmental restoration,  
pollution prevention and hazardous  
waste minimization.

We in the Navy are deeply and  
firmly committed to maintaining our  
role as a leader in protecting the  
environment. It is our community,  
too, and our Navy men and women  
are proud to live here.

**REAR ADM. KEVIN F. DELANEY,**  
commander,  
U.S. Navy,  
Jacksonville